The Government of India has also set up a Price Stabilization Fund with a corpus of Rs. 500 crore for the benefit of tea, coffee, rubber and tobacco growers.

Industrial package for Himachal Pradesh

†168. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the concessions to be given for setting up industries in Himachal Pradesh under the industrial package given by Government;

(b) whether the proposals for setting up of Industries have been invited by the State Government from the industries which are to be benefited under this scheme;

(c) the number of proposals received by the State Government for setting up of new industries under this scheme after getting the above package; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken by the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Government announced a package of economic incentives on 07.01.2003 for promoting industrialization in the State of Himachal Pradesh. The economic incentives envisaged in the package, *inter-alia*, include 100% income tax exemption for initial period of five years and thereafter 30% for companies and 25% for other than companies for a further period of five years, 100% excise exemption; Capital Investment Subsidy @ 15% for investment in plant and machinery subject to a maximum of Rs. 30 lakh, etc.

(b) to (d) The State Government is giving wide publicity among the entrepreneurs through advertisements in the leading industrial print media about the package of incentives available for industrial units in Himachal Pradesh. The State Government also regularly interacts with industrialists through apex Industry Associations like Punjab, Haryana, Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), etc. After the announcement of the Package, Government of Himachal Pradesh, till 30th June 2004, has received 2570 proposals for setting up of new industries in the small scale sector and 327 proposals for setting up of new industries in the medium and large scale sector.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.